

Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 /090 W

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R 070833Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4194

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR KS US

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF CHIEF PRESIDENTIAL PRESS SECRETARY

REF: O'DONOHUE-KELLY TELCON

1. CHIEF PRESIDENTIAL BLUE HOUSE SECRETARY KIM SEONG JIN (KIM SONG-CHIN) HAS INFORMED PAO AND POL COUNSELOR HE WILL TRAVEL TO JAPAN AND US SHORTLY.

2. KIM SAID HIS ITINERARY NOT YET FIRM BUT HE PLANS DEPART SEOUL JUNE 10 FOR SEVERAL DAYS IN TOKYO. FOLLOWING THAT HE INTENDS TO VISIT WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK. KIM SAID HE WILL BE IN WASHINGTON DURING WEEK OF JUNE 16.

3. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH US KIM HAS SAID THAT HIS TRIP IS PRIVATE AND HE IS NOT TRAVELING ON OFFICIAL MISSION. HOWEVER, HE INTENDS TO USE VISITS TO WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK TO MEET SOME FORMER ASSOCIATES IN US MEDIA AND DISCUSS PROBLEMS ROKG FACES IN ITS RELATIONSHIPS WITH US MEDIA REPS. WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT). (KIM IS FORMER ORIENT PRESS.

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4. KIM IS ONE OF THE KEY ROK GOVERNMENT FIGURES IN

SETTING PRESS POLICY AS WELL AS IN HANDLING OF FOREIGN MEDIA CORRESPONDENTS. IN PAST YEAR HE HAS ALSO BECOME INFLUENTIAL IN BLUE HOUSE IN POLITICAL AREAS OUTSIDE OF PRESS RELATIONS.

5. CONSEQUENTLY BELIEVE THAT KIM'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON WOULD AFFORD EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR DISCUSSION WITH SENIOR DEPARTMENT OFFICERS ON PROBLEMS CREATED BY ROKG'S ACTIONS RELATED TO US CORRESPONDENTS AS WELL AS GENERAL QUESTION OF ROKG IMAGE IN US. WOULD RECOMMEND THAT CALL BE ARRANGED FOR KIM WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY INGERSOLL AS WELL AS A SENIOR DEPARTMENT OFFICER DEALING WITH MEDIA. (KIM DOES NOT WANT TO BE PROGRAMMED BEYOND ABOVE REQUESTED CALLS).

6. KIM HAS NOT YET INFORMED KOREAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON OF HIS TRAVEL PLANS. WOULD RECOMMEND THAT DEPARTMENT DELAY DISCUSSIONG KIM'S PROJECTED VISIT WITH KOREAN EMBASSY UNTIL NEXT WEEK. AT THAT TIME KOREAN EMBASSY SHOULD HAVE BEEN INFORMED OF HIS SCHEDULE.

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